

Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPOREs)

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<http://spores.nci.nih.gov>

SPORE Concept

- Initiated in 1992
 - \$20M appropriation by Congress
- Interdisciplinary Team Research: Basic and Applied/Clinical Project Co-Leaders
- Site Driven: Organ/Disease Specific
- Translational Research:
Lab/Clinic/Population-based
- Special Review Criteria
- Program Flexibility

Administration within the NCI (located outside of a scientific division)

National Cancer Institute

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(<http://spores.nci.nih.gov>)

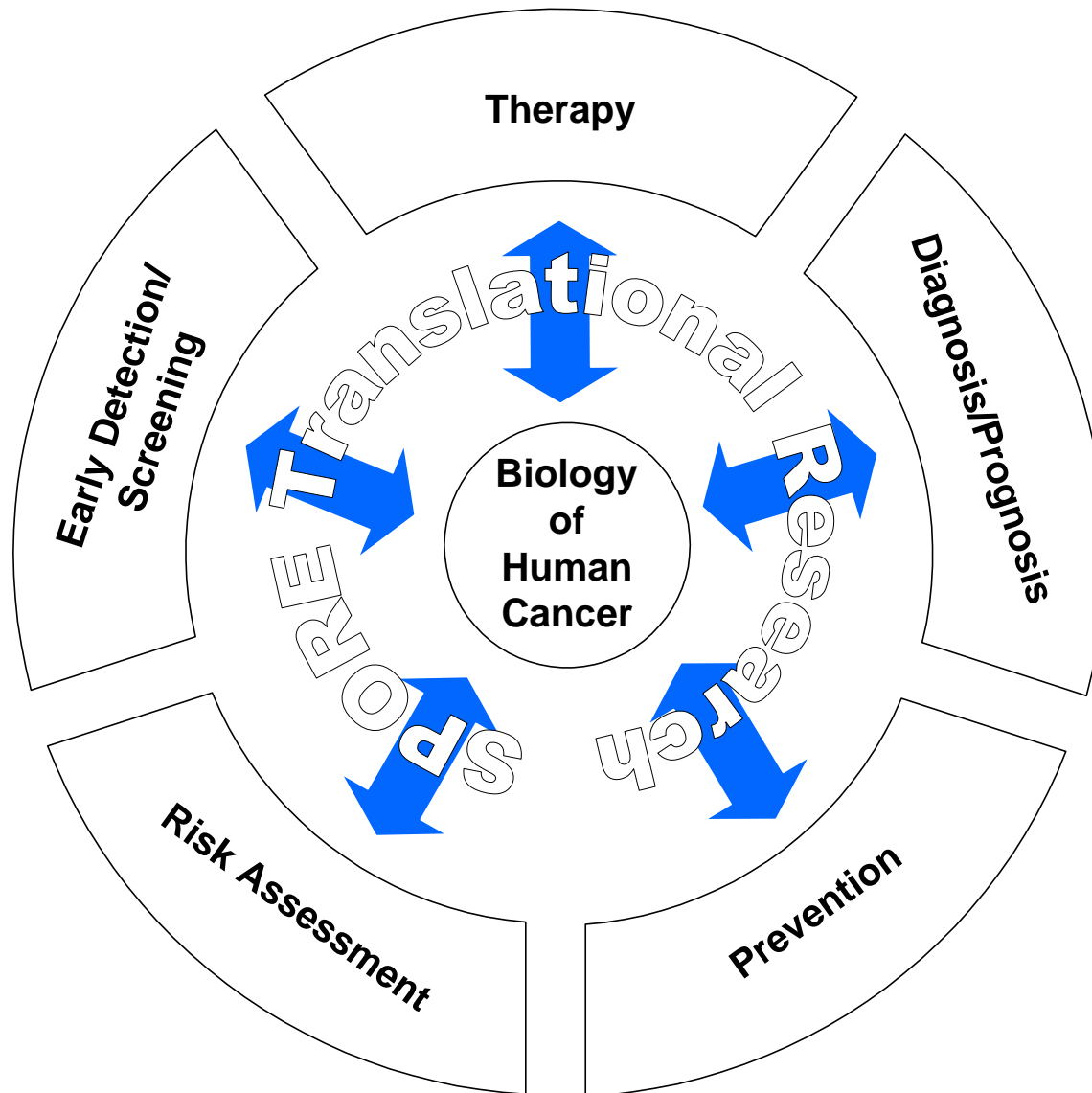
SPORE definition of Translational Research

Translational research uses knowledge of human biology to develop and test the feasibility of cancer-relevant interventions in humans AND/OR determines the biological basis for observations made in individuals with cancer or in populations at risk for cancer

Goal of Each Project:

Human application (early clinical trial and biomarker validation studies) within the term of award

Bi-Directional Translational Research



SPORE Eligibility and Expectations

- Institutional Commitment
(co-funding encouraged)
- Access to Patients
- Basic and Clinical Research Base
- Budget Cap
(\$1.5M DC; \$2.5M TC)
- Team Concept
- Inter-SPORE Activities
(collaborations with NIH/NCI Networks)
- Flexibility to Realign Resources
- Scientific Outreach
- Internal/External Advisors

SPORE:

Institutional Commitment

- Letters of Support from Institution(s)
- Incorporation of the SPORE within its Institutional Priorities
- Allocation of Discretionary Resources to the SPORE Program
- Facilitation and Promotion of Scientific Progress
- Integration of SPORE activities with NCI-designated Cancer Center

Integration of SP0RE with NCI-designated Cancer Center (CC)

- Principal Investigator: Leader within CC
- Lines of Authority
- Organizational Relationships
- Separate Institutional Commitment
- Augmentation of Existing CC Resources:
Cores/Developmental Programs
- Program Coordination with CC Activities

SPORE Specific Requirements

- Principal Investigator (min 20-25% effort)
- 4 Translational Research Projects (\$150-250K DC)
- Shared Cores (\$50-250K DC)
- Career Development (\$100-200K DC)
- Developmental Research Program (\$100-200K DC)
- Commitment to Annual SPORE Meeting

**New: Data Management/Bioinformatics Capabilities
Intellectual Property Management Plan
Data and Research Resources Sharing Plan
Increased Emphasis on Collaborations**

Structure of SPOREs vs CCNEs

- Translational Research
- *Cap:* \$2.5M TC
- *# Projects:* 4-6
- *# Cores:* 3-5
- *Mechanism:* P50
- *Focus:* Organ Site;
Diversity in Clinical
Applications
- Career Development for
Investigators
- Developmental
Research Program
- Nanotechnology
- *Cap:* \$5.0M TC
- *# Projects:* 5-8
- *# Cores:* ??
- *Mechanism:* U54
- *Focus:* Clinical
Application(s)
- Training for Graduate
Students & Postdocs

Clinical Applications

SPOREs vs CCNES

- Risk Assessment
- Prevention
- Early Detection/Diagnosis
- Prognosis/Prediction
- Treatment
- In Vivo Imaging
- Prevention & Control
- Mol Imaging & Early Detection
- Reporters of Efficacy
- Multifunctional Therapeutics
- Research Enablers

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